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PTO/SB/01 (10-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002 OMB 0651-0032

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<b>DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR UTILITY OR DESIGN PATENT APPLICATION (37 CFR 1.63)</b>  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Declaration Submitted with Initial Filing <input type="checkbox"/> Declaration Submitted after Initial Filing      OR      Initial Filing (Surcharge (37 CFR 1.16(e)) required)	Attorney Docket Number	END-786			
	First Named Inventor	Jesse J. Kuhns et al.			
	COMPLETE IF KNOWN				
	Application Number				
	Filing Date	December 10, 2001			
	Group Art Unit				
	Examiner Name				
<b>As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:</b>  My residence, mailing address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name. I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:  <b>SURGICAL INSTRUMENT HAVING A FASTENER DELIVERY MECHANISM</b> (Title of the Invention)  the specification of which  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto  OR  <input type="checkbox"/> was filed on (MM/DD/YYYY) <input type="text"/> as United States Application Number or PCT International Application Number <input type="text"/> and was amended on (MM/DD/YYYY)  I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to above.  I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56, including for continuation-in-part applications, material information which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.  I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.					
<b>Prior Foreign Application Number(s)</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Foreign Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)</b>	<b>Priority Not Claimed</b>	<b>Certified Copy Attached?</b> YES      NO	
			<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Additional foreign application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto:					

### DECLARATION - Utility or Design Patent Application

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

Application Number(s)

Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)



Additional provisional application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto.

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

Application Serial No.

Filing Date

Status

09/692,633

October 19, 2000

Pending

09/692,627

October 19, 2000

Pending

09/692,636

October 19, 2000

Pending

I hereby appoint:

☒ Practitioners at Customer Number **000027777** →

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AND

☒ Practitioner(s) named below:

Name

Registration Number

Dean L. Garner

35,877

as my/our attorney(s) or agent(s) to prosecute the application identified above, and to transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

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ZIP

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NAME OF SOLE OR FIRST INVENTOR:

☐ A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor

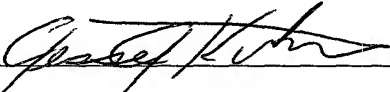
Given Name

(first and middle [if any]) Jesse J.

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or Surname Kuhns

Inventor's  
Signature



Date 12-7-01

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NAME OF SECOND INVENTOR:

☐ A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor

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NAME OF THIRD INVENTOR:

☐ A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor

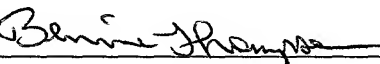
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NAME OF FOURTH INVENTOR:

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NAME OF FIFTH INVENTOR:

☐ A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor

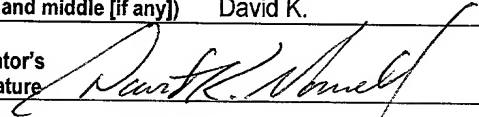
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Family Name

or Surname Norvelle

Inventor's  
Signature



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07/20/01

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ZIP USA

Country USA

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NAME OF SIXTH INVENTOR:

☐ A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor

Given Name

(first and middle [if any])

Family Name

or Surname

Inventor's  
Signature

Date

Residence: City

State

Country

Citizenship

Mailing Address

City

State

ZIP

Country